

Suggested Phone Conversation with the Director, Central Intelligence Agency

Allen, this is George Allen at the USIA Relocation Site, working in a conference room with our Executive Reservists and my Senior staff. We are tackling some of the staggering information and propaganda problems which we expect might be assigned to us by the President and the National Security Council in the event of war.

As part of our exercise, I have placed this call to you to demonstrate how the Information Agency, under emergency conditions, could be in direct contact with you and your staff in order to receive the very latest intelligence from all over the world.

(Dulles responds)

We have thirty-one Executive Reservists participating with us in this week's exercises. This is an exceptional group of men with broad experience in this field whom we are very proud to work with, and many of whom you know personally: Chester Bowles, Phil Reed, Spike Canham, et al.

(Dulles responds)

The task of this Agency, like your own, continues to be one of averting war. We fervently hope that the problems we are working on during this exercise will never arise. But if they should, if we should be faced with an emergency situation, I am confident that all of us here will be better prepared to serve our nation.

Suggested Phone Conversation Between the Director of the United States  
Information Agency and the Director of Central Intelligence

Mr. Allen: Allen, this is George Allen at the USIA Relocation Site, working in a conference room with our Executive Reservists and my Senior staff. We are tackling some of the staggering information and propaganda problems which we expect might be assigned to us by the President and the National Security Council in the event of war.

As part of our exercise, I have placed this call to you to demonstrate how the Information Agency, under emergency conditions, could be in direct contact with you and your staff in order to receive the very latest intelligence from all over the world.

Mr. Dulles: Well, George, I am delighted to hear from you. I am sure that you are aware that we are set up in our Relocation Center to maintain contact with all of our sources of intelligence and to continue to provide intelligence to all of the key components of the Government. In a real emergency I would expect to be able to talk to you just as we are talking now and to be able to provide the USIA with the intelligence that it needs in order to carry out its mission in that situation.

Mr. Allen: We have thirty-one Executive Reservists participating with us in this week's exercises. This is an exceptional group of men with broad experience in this field whom we

Mr. Allen: are very proud to work with, and many of whom you know  
Cont'd personally: Chester Bowles, Phil Reed, Spike Canham, et al.

Mr. Dulles: That is a very impressive group of people that you have there with you. Please give them my personal regards. I feel that their participation in this exercise is particularly important because the Government will have to count on assistance from informed citizens of this type to meet the unprecedented problems with which our country will be faced in a real emergency.

Mr. Allen: The task of this Agency, like your own, continues to be one of averting war. We fervently hope that the problems we are working on during this exercise will never arise. But if they should, if we should be faced with an emergency situation, I am confident that all of us here will be better prepared to serve our nation.

Mr. Dulles: I agree that this type of exercise will help us avert war in at least two ways: first, the better prepared we are the easier it will be to avoid war and secondly, the more that we go through training like this, the more our senior responsible citizens will appreciate the problems currently facing the nation, and a well-informed public opinion under their leadership will be a tremendous asset in helping us achieve our peaceful objectives.

Mr. Allen: Thank you very much, Allen. Goodbye.



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UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE DIRECTOR

July 11, 1958

Dear Allen:

Attached is a suggestion for the little two-minute conversation you might have with George Allen at a convenient moment during Operation Alert next week.

Our Executive Reservists will be at the USIA re-location site on Wednesday, Thursday, and through noon on Friday.

Though it would be more realistic if this call could go through while you were actually at your relocation site, this would not be necessary. Wednesday afternoon, or any time Thursday would be best from our standpoint.

Many thanks.

Sincerely,

Abbott Washburn  
Deputy Director

The Honorable  
Allen W. Dulles  
Director of Central Intelligence

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MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. DULLES

Attached is suggested phone conversation which will be initiated by Mr. Allen to you during Exercise Alert. Per your direction we will advise USIA that this phone call should be made in the late afternoon of Thursday, 17 July.

If you agree, we will make a copy of the attached available to the officer in charge at the Relocation Center in the event the call should by circumstance be phoned to that location in your absence and ask that officer to express the sentiments contained herein in response to Mr. Allen's call.

*JMC*

15 July 58

(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101  
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

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